



House Bills 4162 and 4163 – Sponsored by Representative Al Pscholka

Michigan Association for Home Care Position: Support

Presented February 24, 2015, before the House Commerce and Trade Committee. Barry Cargill, Executive Director, Michigan Association for Home Care (AKA, Michigan Home Care).

Michigan Home Care is pleased to support House Bill 4162 and 4163. If passed, this legislation will reduce the regulations involved with the installation of home stair-lifts, helping seniors and persons with disabilities remain in their homes longer, improve the person's quality of life, and reduce dependency on government insurance programs.

Current Michigan law regulates residential stair lifts the same as commercial elevators. We believe it is time for Michigan's elevator regulations to advance with the technical breakthroughs that are bringing new affordable products and services to the home consumer market. While the price and quality of available products has advanced to meet the demands of the home consumer, over-regulation often makes home stair-lifts cost prohibitive to many seniors and disabled persons.

Under the bills, individuals who are licensed elevator contractors or have a certification from the manufacturer of stair lifts may install residential stair lifts. The legislation maintains local control over the permitting process for stair lifts. HB 4162 and 4163 will reduce the cost of installing stair lifts while maintaining safety and bringing Michigan regulations in line with neighboring states.

The Michigan Association for Home Care applauds the leadership of Representative Pscholka in advancing legislation to help seniors and disabled persons stay in their home. We urge support for HB 4162 and 4163 from the House Commerce and Trade Committee.

About Michigan Home Care

Established in 1981, the Michigan Association for Home Care is the state trade association for providers of home care services. Michigan Home Care provides a unified voice for all components of home care and promotes high standards of patient care in the delivery of home care services. Michigan Home Care advocates for the role of home care services within the total health care system. Our Mission is to be the unified voice, principle resource and advocate for the success of our Member organizations as best practice providers of home care, including home health, hospice, private duty (medical and personal care), home medical equipment and pharmacy-infusion services for the residents of Michigan. Learn more at our website: www.HomeCareMI.org